

Appln No. 09/732,978

Amdt date September 15, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 15, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. Currently Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 9 and 11 have been amended.

The Examiner has maintained the rejection previously issued and made it final, namely the claims have been rejected as allegedly obvious over Hatcher and Wang. The Examiner has indicated that the rejections are based on the broadest reasonable interpretation, one of ordinary skill in the art considers the claimed invention to be. It is respectfully submitted that is well known case law that the claims can only be interpreted as supported by the specification. Claims can not mean anything, but rather are limited to what is taught by the specification. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiners to reconsider the comments in response to the previous Office action in connection with the amendments now made to the claims.

The present invention is a remote-control system/master-control unit having pulse position modulated transceivers in both the remote-control unit and the master-control unit which permits bi-directional transmission of control signals and data through a single transceiver at each site. Such a system enables a user to communicate bi-directionally with the spa from anywhere in or near the home so as to both control necessary operating functions and obtain status information regarding operating parameters. Both claims 1 and 9 have been amended to specifically recite that both the remote control and the master control unit have means for both controlling necessary operating

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functions and obtaining status information regarding operating parameters.

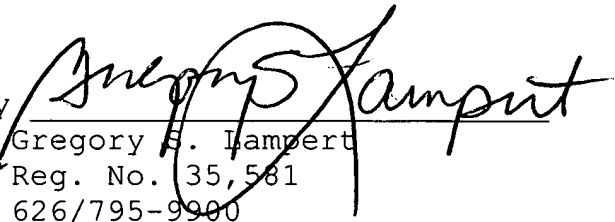
1A It is respectfully submitted that neither of the prior art references discloses a remote-control/master-control unit for a pool or spa wherein both units have a PPM transceiver and means to both control necessary operating functions and obtain status information regarding operating parameters in each of the master control unit and the remote control unit. The Examiner has already indicated that Hatcher discloses a remote-control system for a spa which is one directional, wherein the remote control simply is transmitter and the control unit simply has a received. 12 Wang, et al. is a reference directed to a pulse position modulation based transceiver which does not provide both a remote control unit and a master control unit to both control necessary operating functions and obtain status information regarding operating parameters.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and, accordingly, early indication thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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